
INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM

TO: TOWN OF LA POINTE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
FROM: MICHAEL DALZELL – AIRPORT MANAGER
SUBJECT: MONTHLY REPORT
DATE: 22 JULY 2014
CC: TOWN OF LA POINTE CLERK

We have a tentative schedule for the AWOS project from the contractor, Steve Connolley of Vaisala Inc. Eagan MN. The standard AWOS project is typically a 9 – 12 month process, the breakdown is as follows:

AWOS siting and 7460 submittal - 1 to 2 months. Doing the siting is typically a month long process in the case of Madeline Island it is possible that can take longer as the contractor may have to deal with things that are not a factor at non-island airports.

7460 Approval from the FAA is usually 3 months from submittal - In Wisconsin submittal is done thru the DOT.

FCC license(s) approval from the FCC - 3 months from submittal. FCC submittals cannot be done until the FAA approves the 7460 and gives us an NGT #. In the cases of Madeline and Washington Island the FCC submittal will have to go thru Canadian approval processes as well and could add some time to the 3 months.

AWOS Production time – 2 months on average. Production is not typically started until the FCC licenses are approved as we have no way of knowing when they will approve them.

Installation and Commissioning is normally 2 – 3 weeks from ship date.

As it is now July and if the standard times apply then we are likely to get FAA and FCC approval by Jan or Feb of next year which means we are looking at a spring installation after the ground thaws and dries up enough for us to work. Therefore, depending on what kind of winter we get, it is likely that **May 2015** will be the month our system will be online and commissioned.

It is possible that the FAA and FCC process will take less time, but there is no way to know until it happens, the FAA & FCC do not give status updates or discuss it with anyone. The notices just show up when they are done.

I have distributed this information to my Airport Users list. It might be a good thing if Micaela would post this on the Airport page of the Town's website as well.

Some of the benefits of an AWOS system include not only radio transmissions of Airport conditions (including temperature, relative humidity, barometric pressure, ceiling height, visibility, precipitation, wind direction and velocity, etc.) but also a published telephone number accessible to **anyone** with current information. Data from an AWOS is transmitted to NOAA. If you look at NOAA weather for La Pointe now, they report the conditions at the Ashland Airport. Once our system is online, the same data will be from our Airport instead.

Respectfully,